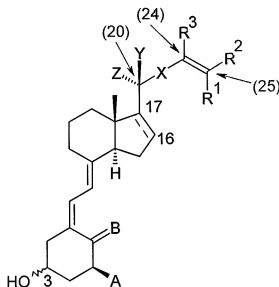


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A compound according to formula I



I

in which formula

R1 and R2, which are the same, represent halogen, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)hydrocarbyl, optionally substituted with one or more fluorine atoms,

or, together with the carbon atom to which they are both attached, R1 and R2 form a (C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)carbocyclic ring;

R3 represents hydrogen or methyl;

X represents (*E*)-ethenylene or (*Z*)-ethenylene;

Y and Z independently represent hydrogen or methyl;

the bond between C#16 and C#17 is depicted with a dotted line to illustrate that said bond is a single bond, in which case the projection of the ring substituent is beta;

A represents hydroxyl;

B represents CH<sub>2</sub>;

the configuration in the 3-position corresponds to the same configuration as in natural vitamin D<sub>3</sub> (normal), or the configuration in the 3-position is opposite to natural vitamin D<sub>3</sub> (epi); and *in vivo* hydrolysable esters and stereo isomeric forms thereof.

2. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 1 wherein R1 and R2 when taken separately, independently represent bromo, chloro, methyl, ethyl, trifluoromethyl, 1-propyl, 2-propyl, cyclopropyl, 2-methyl-2-propyl, or 3-pentyl.

3. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 1 wherein R1 and R2 are the same and both represent methyl, ethyl, bromo, or trifluoromethyl.

4. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 1 wherein R1 and R2 when taken together with the carbon atom to which they are both attached to form a C<sub>3</sub> carbocyclic ring or a C<sub>4</sub> carbocyclic ring.

5. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 4 wherein R1 and R2 when taken together are ethylene or tri-methylene, such as R1 and R2 when taken together with the carbon atom to which they are both attached to form a C<sub>3</sub> carbocyclic ring or a C<sub>4</sub> carbocyclic ring.

6.-8. (Cancelled).

9. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 1 wherein R1 represents -CMe<sub>3</sub>.

10. - 11. (Cancelled)

12. (Previously presented) A compound according to claim 1 wherein the configuration in the 3-position corresponds to the configuration of natural vitamin D<sub>3</sub> (normal).

13. (Previously presented) A compound according to claim 1 wherein the configuration in the 3-position corresponds to the opposite configuration to that of natural vitamin D<sub>3</sub> (epi).

14. (Previously presented) A compound according to claim 1 selected from the list consisting of

- 1(S),3(R)-Dihydroxy-9,10-secocholesta-5(Z),7(E),10(19), 22(E),24-penta-ene (Compound 1),  
1(S),3(R)-Dihydroxy-9,10-secocholesta-5(Z),7(E),10(19), 22(Z),24-penta-ene (Compound 2),  
20(S),1(S),3(R)-Dihydroxy-9,10-secocholesta-5(Z),7(E),10(19), 22(E),24-penta-ene (Compound 3),  
1(S),3(R)-Dihydroxy-9,10-seco-26,27-cyclo-cholesta-5(Z),7(E),10(19), 22(E),24-penta-ene (Compound 4),  
20(S),1(S),3(R)-Dihydroxy-9,10-seco-26,27-cyclo-cholesta-5(Z),7(E),10(19), 22(E),24-penta-ene (Compound 5),  
1(S),3(R)-Dihydroxy-9,10-seco-26,27-methano-cholesta-5(Z),7(E),10(19), 22(E),24-penta-ene (Compound 6),  
20(S),1(S),3(R)-Dihydroxy-9,10-seco-26,27-methano-cholesta-5(Z),7(E),10(19), 22(E),24-penta-ene (Compound 7),  
1(S),3(R)-Dihydroxy-20(S)-(4,4-dibromo-1,3-butadien-1-yl)-9,10-seco-pregna-5(Z),7(E),10(19)-triene (Compound 8),  
1(S),3(S)-Dihydroxy-9,10-secocholesta-5(Z),7(E),10(19),22(E),24-penta-ene (Compound 23),  
1(S),3(R)-Dihydroxy-26,26,26,27,27-hexafluoro-9,10-secocholesta-5(Z),7(E),10(19), 22(E),24-penta-ene (Compound 25),  
1(S),3(R)-Dihydroxy-20(R)-(4,4-dibromo-1,3-butadien-1-yl)-9,10-seco-pregna-5(Z),7(E),10(19)-triene (Compound 27),  
1(S),3(R)-Dihydroxy-26,27-dimethyl-9,10-secocholesta-5(Z),7(E),10(19), 22(E),24-penta-ene (Compound 28),  
1(S),3(S)-Dihydroxy-26,27-dimethyl-9,10-secocholesta-5(Z),7(E),10(19), 22(E),24-penta-ene (Compound 29),  
1(S),3(R)-Dihydroxy-24-methyl-26,27-methano-9,10-secocholesta-5(Z),7(E),10(19), 22(E),24-penta-ene (Compound 30),

1(S),3(R)-Dihydroxy-20(R)-(4,4-dichloro-1,3-butadien-1-yl)-9,10-seco-pregna-5(Z),7(E),10(19)-triene (Compound 31),

1(S),3(R)-Dihydroxy-26,27-ethano-9,10-secocholesta-5(Z),7(E),10(19), 22(E),24-penta-ene (Compound 32),

1(S),3(R)-Dihydroxy-26,27-propano-9,10-secocholesta-5(Z),7(E),10(19), 22(E),24-penta-ene (Compound 33), and

20(S),1(S),3(R)-Dihydroxy-26,26,26,27,27-hexafluoro-9,10-secocholesta-5(Z),7(E),10(19), 22(E),24-penta-ene (Compound 36).

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to claim 1, ~~optionally another therapeutically active compound~~, and optionally a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

17. - 23. (Cancelled)

24. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to claim 14, and optionally a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.